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ARTICLE LII.

*The Modern Theory and Practice of PHYSICK, wherein the Antecedent Causes of Diseases, the Rise of the most usual Symptoms incident to them, and the true Methods of Cure, are explain'd according to the establish'd Laws of Nature, and those of the Animal OEconomy. Together with a Chemical Analysis of the Urine, and a Statical Examination of the Blood in every Stage of each Distemper where Blood could be drawn with Safety. By BROWNE LANGRISH, of the College of Physicians, London, and Fellow of the Royal Society. Printed for Mess. Bettelworth and Hitch, at the Red-Lyon in Pater-noster-Row. Octavo. Containing 372 pages, beside a Dedication, and Preface of 57 pages.*



Experimental philosophy was but little known in the time of lord Bacon; but that great man, who in a manner laid the foundation of what has been so happily improved in the last and the present age, made a noble attempt for reducing the sciences to a rational standard; he frequently bewails the too great neglect of philosophy in the prac-

tice of physic. *Physic*, says he, *not founded on philosophy, is weak.* The truth of this reflection is but too evident; the mechanism of the human body cannot be understood without an acquaintance with the laws of motion, the nature and action of the *fluids*, the elasticity of the *solids*, &c. And we have lived to see the art of physic advanced to some degree of certainty and a sort of demonstration,

stration, in proportion to the progress of philosophical experiments, and reasoning from the known laws and operations of nature.

Mr. *Langrish* has already engaged the attention of the public, by an ingenious little piece on *muscular motion*, grounded on experiments, observations, and the principles of the *Newtonian* philosophy. He undertakes a larger task in the work before us, designed for the improvement and instruction of young practitioners in physic.

As *apothecaries* in the country are frequently obliged to prescribe medicines, by reason of the absence, or great distance of regular physicians; our author, in his preface, advises them to a diligent and industrious pursuit of the studies of *anatomy*, *natural* and *experimental philosophy*, *chymistry*, *botany*, and *pharmacy*. This advice seems to insinuate, that a man cannot practise physic with any tolerable security, who is unacquainted with those branches of knowledge. But it is much to be fear'd, that want of time, or something else, will deprive the country patients of the assistance they might afford.

Our ingenious author employs some pages of his preface, in enforcing the great usefulness of those studies; and the treatise in hand shews us, that he has used uncommon pains and industry in the pursuit and application of them. It is divided into fourteen chapters. The first treats of *the antecedents to an acute continual fever*.

Mr. *Langrish* sets out with the

three following propositions, which he justly terms *fundamental*, and such as may pass for *axioms* or known truths.

I. "An *animal body* is a delicate machine, or a *compages* or *congeries* of vascular tubes, differently modified, platted, and wove together; and this *mechanism* is govern'd and conducted by the same *laws*, that support the great *orbs* of the universe; whence it is impossible, for any change or variation to be made in it, but from an alteration of its matter and motion.

II. "The several *productive causes of diseases* have their peculiar and certain effects, in producing particular *phenomena*, or *diagnostic signs*, according as they alter the texture, figuration, or bulk of the component parts of the *fluids*; or according to their influence over the *solids*, either by rendering them too tense and contracted, or too soft, flabby and relaxed.

III. "Matter, by what name soever dignified or distinguished, can have no other virtues or properties, than such as result from the particular figures and modifications of its constituent particles.

From these proportions it is concluded, "that the method to be observ'd by a physician, demands a diligent enquiry into the *predisposing*, or *procatartic causes of acute continual fevers*; in order to shew on what principles they act, and by what *laws* they influence the delicate  
fine



“ fine *fibrillæ* of the body, and  
 “ their contain’d juices.” It is  
 observed, after *Hippocrates*, “ That  
 “ the changes of seasons are the  
 “ most effectual causes of disea-  
 “ ses; there being no distemper,  
 “ but what may drive its original  
 “ from, or owe its growth to,  
 “ some alteration in the proper-  
 “ ties or qualities of the *air*, ei-  
 “ ther in respect to its *density* or  
 “ *levity*, *moisture*, *dryness*, *heat*,  
 “ *cold*, *motion*, or as it happens  
 “ to be more or less impregnated  
 “ with *heterogeneous* particles.”  
 The state of the air is therefore  
 considered in all those respects,  
 with a view to its influence on  
 animal machines, which are sub-  
 ject to the same regular changes  
 as we observe in a *Barometer*,  
*Thermometer*, *Hygroscope*, &c.  
 An addition to the atmospherical  
 pressure of the air condenses the  
*fluids*, renders the globules of the  
 blood more compact, gross and  
 viscid, and unites the component  
 parts of the *solids*. By this means  
 the diameters of the several series  
 of vessels are lessened, while the  
 globules, which constitute the *flu-  
 ids*, coalesce and are enlarged.  
 To this it is added, “ That, as  
 “ the lungs are more forcibly ex-  
 “ panded, when the gravity of  
 “ the air is encreased, and as the  
 “ circulation of the blood meets  
 “ with most resistance toward  
 “ the external superficies of the  
 “ body, when the pressure of the  
 “ air is greatest; it must neces-  
 “ sarily follow, that the velocity  
 “ and quantity of blood will be  
 “ greatly encreased in the larger  
 “ arteries: whence the friction  
 “ and heat of the blood may be

“ great enough, especially if this  
 “ state of the air continues long,  
 “ to inspissate the juices, gene-  
 “ rate obstructions, and produce  
 “ *ardent fevers*.

What we may apprehend from  
*dry air* falls next under considera-  
 tion. “ A long continuance of  
 “ it may render the *fibras* rigid  
 “ and stiff, and the blood viscous  
 “ and dense, by absorbing the  
 “ watry, humid particles, from  
 “ the external superficies of the  
 “ body, and from the internal  
 “ superficies of the lungs, in too  
 “ great quantities, &c.” This  
 quantity of the air therefore is  
 another antecedent cause of *ardent  
 fevers*.

*Hot air* thickens the *animal  
 fluids*, and renders them less ca-  
 pable of passing through their ca-  
 nals: it likewise exalts and vola-  
 tilizes the *saline* and *sulphureous*  
 principles of those *fluids*, and thus  
 they become acrid and corrosive,  
 and stimulate the vessels into  
 more frequent contractions. *Ex-  
 treme cold weather* irritates the  
*fibres* and condenses the *fluids*; by  
 which the circulation to the ex-  
 ternal surface of the body is re-  
 tarded, and the blood driven upon  
 the inward parts with greater  
 force. *Cold* in a moderate degree  
 is a preservative of human bodies,  
 by acting in opposition to *heat*,  
 and maintaining the balance; so  
 that the vicissitudes of *heat* and  
*cold*, are perfectly necessary to the  
 preservation and oeconomy of ani-  
 mal bodies; “ because the con-  
 “ stant oscillatory motions of con-  
 “ traction and dilatation produced  
 “ by those alterations, greatly  
 “ assist in carrying on the cir-  
 “ culation,

culatation, removing obstructions, or dilating such vessels as were too narrow before. *High winds* influence our bodies by bringing a succession of fresh air, and blowing off the atmosphere of warm perspirable matter that surrounds them.

It is farther observed, that the air may be rendered unwholesome, by mineral, sulphureous, saline vapours, which float in it; and not only vitiate our food, by mixing with it, but insinuate themselves into the *vasa inhalantia*, situated on the external superficies of the body, and through the pores of the *pulmonary* membranes, and thus pass on to the blood by the *recurrent* vessels; so that different air must affect human bodies variously in proportion to the excesses of such particles impregnated in it.

The effects of *good* or *bad water* on animal bodies, fall next under consideration. Here it is proposed to find out the several degrees of purity, by the different *specifick gravity* of water. The *lightest* waters are the best, as least charged with exhalations. In order to be a proper diluent or dissolver of food, they should have neither taste nor smell; if they have either, they are impregnated with salt, sulphur, vitriol, copper, &c. Under this head, the author considers the pernicious effects of drinking too little water, or too small a quantity of watry, cooling, diluting drinks, in proportion to the solid aliment.

*Gluttony*, according to our judicious physician, ought to be placed first of all the *antecedents* to

*acute diseases*. Under this topick too much use of aliment, which tends to create an *alkaline*, acrid or glutinous quality in the humours, is ranked among the causes of *ardent fevers*. Of this sort, are large quantities of *flesh-meat*, with rich and poignant sauces; variety of savory dishes; and even an excess of wholesome food, which may increase the quantity of the *fluids*, and produce morbid effects, by sending into the blood more chyle than can be properly assimilated by the vital powers; whereby the globules of the blood grow too bulky and incapable of passing freely through the minute sanguinary *Tubuli*. Here just commendations are bestow'd on Dr. *Arbuthnot's* regulations of diet, and *Boerhaave's new theory of chymistry*; and the use and abuse of spirituous liquors are consider'd.

*Immoderate and violent exercise*, is oftentimes an *antecedent* to *acute fevers*, as it pushes on the blood with too great celerity, augments the heat of the body, breaks the juices into their *minima*, rarifies their constituent parts, and makes them possess a larger space than usual; inspissates the animal fluids, and renders them acrid and alkaline.

Another cause here assign'd for *acute fevers*, is a *suppression of any natural or accustomed evacuation*; as the matter retained generally gives a greater saltiness and acrimony to all the juices, and changes them from a soft and unctuous, into an acrid and irritating disposition. For which reason, an unseasonable use of *strong, astringent, styptics* is condemned, as they may  
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lock up the excretive glandules, so as to occasion an *ardent fever*.

*Sharp, pungent pains*, especially in the membranous parts, will cause or increase a fever, as being attended with a contraction of the pained part, which either totally obstructs or retards the motion of the blood and spirits, and swells the part. *Watching too much* obstructs perspiration, and renders the *fibres* too stiff and rigid. *Intense and severe study* braces the *meninges* of the brain, with the other membranes and delicate *fibillæ* of the body, too tight; and thus evacuations are suppressed.

This chapter concludes, with observing, that those who have died of hunger or thirst, have always died *feverish* and *delirious*, which the author attributes to the loss of the chyle, "whose office" is to attemperate, cool and "dilute the blood, as well as to afford nutriment to the several organs of the body. Thus the blood becomes dense, hot, acrid and alkaline, to such a degree, at least, as will be sufficient to render the whole mass, in a few days, unfit for any of the functions of life, &c." From which it is inferred, that *too long abstinence* is to be consider'd as one of the *causes* of *acute fevers*.

The *rise* of the most usual *symptoms*, incident to an *acute, continual fever*, is the subject of the second chapter. As all *diseases* are occasioned by a depravity of the *fluids*, or *solids*, or both; and the *antecedent causes* of this disease, all tend to render the animal fluids acrid, gross and viscous, or to oc-

casione obstructions in some of the outlets of the body, whereby they augment the quantity, velocity and heat of the blood; we have here twenty-one symptoms of *acute continual fevers*, which result from those irregularities in the animal machine.

The first is a *rigor* or cold chill, which chiefly affects the extremities of the body, from a check given to the circulation. *Secondly*, for the same reason, the pulse is languid and slow at the beginning of these *fevers*. *Thirdly*, the course of the blood being more and more retarded in the ultimate branches of the *Arteriolæ*, the flow soon becomes quicker in the larger arteries; and the circle of the greatest part of the blood being thus shortened, the return to the heart will be quicker; in consequence of which, the heart will beat oftener, and the heat of the body increase. *Fourthly*, a *large, quick, full pulse*, is the necessary concomitant of a *plethora ad vasa*, occasion'd by a difficult circulation through the minutest and most remote *Tubuli*. *Fifthly*, the skin feels dry and hard; and the whole *vascular system* seems to be too elastic and dense; which symptom, our author thinks, proceeds principally from the quantity of the *saline* and *sulphureous* principles in the blood, being augmented by some of the *antecedents*; or to their being attenuated and volatilized by an impetuous motion and heat, so as to become more acrid, sharp and irritating; consequently, they will stimulate the fibres and increase their tension.

As the *theory of diseases* depends very much on a true knowledge of the nature of the elasticity or springiness of the *fibres*, our author here presents his readers with a *chymical analysis of solid parts of an animal body*, in order to investigate the proportions or qualities of their several constituent parts. This was performed in two experiments. In the first, he took the *tendons* from the leg of an *ox*, cleared them from the *membranes* and *fat*, put them into a *copper* body, which held *five pints*; &c. After a particular account of the *apparatus* us'd on that occasion, he gives us a detail of the *process*; by which he gained *lymph* xii ounces, vi drams; *volatile salt* ii drams, vi grains; *oil* iii drams, iii grains; *caput mortuum*, before *calcination*, ii ounces, i dram, x grains; *caput mortuum*, after *calcination*, i ounce, ii drams, xxxiii grains. *Lost in distillation*, iii drams, xxxx grains; *lost by calcination*, vi drams, xxvi grains. For the second experiment, he took a muscle from the *buttock* of a very lean *bull*, &c. Here again, the watry or *phlegmatic* principle abounded very considerably above the other principles; and *four drams* and *forty-five grains* of matter was lost in distillation; the much greatest part of which is concluded to have been true permanent air.

After some reasoning on these two *processes*, which would suffer too much by an abridgment, it is concluded, that, "in *acute fevers*,  
" where the *saline* and *sulphureous*  
" particles of the blood are exalted  
" and volatilized, and where all  
" the *fluids* are more acrid, sharp

" and irritating than usual; the  
" *fibres*, which constitute the  
" canals, will be extremely elastic and tense; and their contractile power raised to the highest pitch. Thus the blood will be propelled out of the heart with the greatest *impetus*, and its velocity increased to the greatest degree through every pervious vessel." Hence arises *heat*, the sixth symptom here specified; "for, says Mr. *Langrish*, since it is well known, that, *cæteris paribus*, the heat of an animal is in compound proportion to the quantity of red blood globules, and the different degrees of friction; it naturally follows, that, where both the quantity of red globules, and their velocity are increased, the heat must also." This heat and excessive motion are supposed to produce volatile, acrid, corrosive salts in the blood and humours, by dividing and subdividing the corpuscles of the essential salts, till they acquire a certain degree of minuteness and asperity: they likewise tend to inspissate and incrassate the blood, which in an *intense fever*, is sometimes above the coagulating point.

As some of the *phenomena* of diseases require the physician should be perfectly acquainted with the consistence of the blood, before he can rationally account for them; our indefatigable author has employ'd himself, for some years, in *statically* examining the blood in all the stages of each distemper, where bleeding was thought proper, in order to discover the several degrees of its fluidity



fluidity or thickness; and carefully remarked the several degrees of cohesion between the constituent globules of the *crassamentum*. The experiments are here exhibited, in regard to *acute fevers*, in a tabular way, under the following heads, *viz.* the age of the persons; the day of their disease; the symptoms; the quantity of blood taken away; the quantity of *serum*; the taste and colour of the *serum*; the colour and consistence of the *crassamentum*; what days the *crises* happen'd, and by what outlets. His manner of performing those experiments was thus: *First*, he always took care to bleed into a porringer, as near the same shape and size as possible. *Secondly*, all the blood was receiv'd into one porringer; because he had found by experience, that a pound of blood does not separate so much *serum*, when divided into two parcels, as when contained in one vessel. *Thirdly*, he set the blood in a cool place; and, after it had stood twenty-four hours, very carefully weighed the *serum* and *crassamentum* separately, in order to find their different proportions. *Fourthly*, he took a very thin glass tube, twelve inches long, and one third of an inch diameter: one end of it being sealed up hermetically, he blow'd it out to an obtuse point, about the bigness of a middling pea. This point being set on the *crassamentum*, the weight of the tube was not of itself sufficient to press through, and but very seldom when filled with water. His way therefore of trying the cohesion of the *gore*, was to pour *mercury* into the tube, till it was

just heavy enough to cut its way through; and, as the tube was exactly graduated, he could very nicely determine the power of *cohesion* between the globules, which constituted the *crassamentum*.

As it appears from these experiments, that the blood, in *acute fevers*, is more than ordinary viscid and tenacious, and contains too great a quantity of red globules; our author proceeds to enquire how this alteration is most likely to be produced. After some conjectures on this head, equally modest and ingenious, he gives us a *chymical analysis* of the blood in four different *processes*. This is done with a view of shewing the several proportions the principles of that *fluid* bear to each other, and thus assisting practitioners in accounting for some of the *phaenomena* of diseases, and directing him to a right method of cure. The two first experiments were with blood taken from persons in perfect health; the two last from two men, one on the second day of an intense burning fever, the other on the fourth day of a most *acute fever*. From these it appears, that the *saline* and *sulphureous* parts did abound more in those seiz'd with *acute fevers*, than in those in health. But, as these experiments may be thought too few, for grounding any practical inferences, our author stops here for the present, and proceeds to the seventh symptom of this disease, *viz.* *pains in the head, back, &c.* which are occasion'd by too great distrefs or extension of the vessels. *Vomit-*  
ings,

ings, an unquenchable thirst, and shortness of breath, so frequent in the beginning or progress of fevers, being briefly accounted for; our author proceeds to his eleventh symptom, taken from the quantity, colour, or smell of urine. As the inspection of urine is often of great service in judging of the state and progress of the disease, and forming medical predictions, it is here analysed by nine different experiments, in the same manner with the blood. The chief result of these is, that it appear'd on distillations, that the urine, in fevers, abounds more with saline and sulphureous particles, than it does in health; and especially toward the crisis, when the salts and oils are sufficiently attenuated, &c. it is loaded with a multitude of contents, which gives the patient great relief; but, when it is pellucid, pale and clear, it is a very dangerous phenomenon, and the utmost skill and diligence are requir'd for removing it: to this it is added, that the fix'd salt, in all these experiments, appeared, by the strictest trials with oil of vitriol and a solution of silver, to be sea-salt.

The remaining symptoms are a flushing of the countenance; with a bright look, and seeming protuberance of the eyes; a total loss of appetite; immoderate watchings; phrensy, very greedy eating and drinking; a bursting of the Arteriolæ, either in the nose or uterus; a breaking out of Petechiæ on the skin; rank, fetid sweats; a coma, subsultus, clammy sweats, &c. and, the excretory ducts of the miliary glands, being greatly relaxed, a profuse cold sweat.

The third chapter treats of the cure of an acute continual fever. Mr. Langrish has, both here, and in other parts of his book, carefully avoided a long detail of prescriptions; and only pointed out a few plain simple medicines, which long experience has taught us to be most useful; being well assured, that general forms serve chiefly to deceive the unskilful, as they cannot be suitable to the various circumstances of different patients. He therefore deduces his curative indications from the cause of the disease, and the symptoms which attend it.

From the principles already laid down, it appears, that all the bad symptoms of this disease arise from the blood and humours being too viscous and thick, and too much impregnated with saline and sulphureous particles, &c. The cure therefore consists in lessening the quantity of blood; attenuating, dissolving, and diluting the viscid and glutinous juices; in rendering the fibres more supple and flexible, diminishing the force with which the blood is impell'd against the sides of the vessels; and sheathing, subjugating and destroying all acrid, sharp, irritating particles, abounding in the blood and humours.

Here bleeding is the first remedy; the necessity of which, at the beginning of the distemper in question, is shewn to be such a fault, as cannot be compensated in all the subsequent stadia. As to the quantity of blood to be taken away, the estimate must be made from the violence of the symptoms, and the strength of the



the body; both best known by the pulse. It is observed in general, that it will be always safest to stop something short of the full quantity, which may be spared, than offend the strength by too profuse an evacuation; and this precept is proved to be founded on reason, and confirmed by daily experience. As much has been said concerning *derivation* and *revulsion*, and great stress ought sometimes to be laid on them in the cure of diseases, it is thought proper to enquire in what part of the body, or from what vein the blood ought to be drawn, when such and such *phenomena* appear.

By *revulsion*, our author means *whatever will lessen the quantity of humour circulating to any given part of the body.* "This, he says, can be performed no other way, than by diminishing the *areas* of the transverse sections of the several vessels leading to, or properly belonging to the part affected; or by abating the velocity of the *fluids.*" Having directed how each of these may be performed, he begs leave to dissent from the late learned Dr. Freind, who, in his *Second Commentary on Fevers*, asserts, that *bleeding, in the external jugular vein, is not only the most compendious and expeditious of all revulsions, but also the very strongest of those which are made from the brain.* Here we have a large quotation from that great man, and our author's reply to his reasonings on the subject, which ends with this conclusion; that "whatever disorder in the

"head is relieved by bleeding in the *jugular*, the success is owing to *derivation*, and not to *revulsion.*"

The next thing prescribed, is to dilate and concoct all viscous, fizy humours; to attenuate those whose parts are too bulky to pass freely through the decreasing series of the vessels; and correct, absorb, and alter all *saline, sulphureous, bilious particles*, which are now become much more angular, acrid and pungent, than in a healthful state. This is to be performed by a liberal use of some smooth, cooling, diluting and absterfivive liquors. Gentle *emetics* are recommended, in some cases, to be used previously to all medicines; and the advantages which may be reaped from *vomiting*, in the beginning of *acute fevers*, are enumerated in a short, but satisfactory manner. The liquors most approved of in this case, are *barley-water*; *thin clear whey*; *water-gruel*; *teas* made of *sage, balm, &c.* and, in some cases, the drinks already mention'd are to be acidulated with *vinegar, juice of orange, or lemon.* To these is added, in some circumstances, *clear, old, small beer*, neither bitter nor *sour*. If the body is costive, an ounce of *tamarines*, boil'd in a quart of *barley-water*, makes a very agreeable delightful liquor. The use and operation of those liquors being explain'd, Mr. Langrish undertakes to point out some very destructive medicines, too commonly employed in the beginning of *acute fevers.*

*First*, then all *diaphoretics, or alexipharmics*, are to be avoided.

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These sort of medicines rarify the blood, and increase its motion; and consequently must weaken the vital power, by giving too great resistance, and straining the animal springs beyond what they are able to bear. In the *second* place, it is observed that some rely wholly on *acids* for a cure; this our author calls a *madness*, and a dangerous extreme. *Thirdly*, all *narcotics* or *seporifics* are destructive in the *beginning* of this disease, as too much affecting the *brain* and *nerves*, and tending to make the patient delirious and frantic. *4thly*, the author had known some raw and unexperienced practitioners endeavour to repress the *bilious vomitings*, which commonly happen in the *beginning* of this disease, with *salt of wormwood draughts*, whereby the death of the patient has been hasten'd. "For, says he, "not to mention the great benefit *nature* aims at in ejecting so much sharp, acrid, irritating matter, &c. the *salt of wormwood*, being a caustic and fiery salt, is exceeding improper at such times.

*Fifthly*, "Great care is to be taken not to apply *blistering plaisters* too soon; that is, while the *fibres* are too rigid and stiff, the heat very intense, and the pulse exceeding full, strong and quick. This caution is given chiefly because the application of such plaisters is followed by thirst, with dryness of the tongue, and is grounded on the very nature of *Cantharides*, whose composition is chiefly of the most subtil, pungent, caustic, fiery particles. The practice of keeping the air in the room

of a feverish person too hot, and depriving the patient of the benefit of refrigeration by cool air, is justly censur'd as the *sixth* article of male-practice. The *seventh* here condemn'd, is the pernicious custom of heaping on too much cloaths, under pretence of encouraging sweat; whereas it confines the heat of the body, and consequently increases it. On the other hand, *too little covering*, especially in the winter, may have as bad an effect, as is observed in the *eighth* and last place. For thus the cold air acts as a *stimulus* on the surface of the body, constipates the excretory ducts of the *miliary glands*, condenses the *fluids* contained in them, and thus interrupts a sweat.

It is now time to proceed to the consideration of such medicines and treatments as daily experience testifies to be salutary and useful in the *beginning* and *increase* of this disease. Our ingenious author enters on this part of his work with observing, "that as "a *fever* is only an effort of nature, arising from the mere mechanism of the body, to solve the obstructions, and cast out of the body whatever is offensive to it; so when the symptoms are but moderate, there does not seem occasion for many medicines; it being the duty of a physician to follow the guidance of nature, and not be too officious, lest he should interrupt her proceedings, instead of assisting her.

On this principle, Mr. *Lan-grish* says, that if *bleeding*, *vomiting*,



ing, and diluting medicines have been properly prescribed, and the pulse still continues full and quick, and every organ seems to labour to get rid of some offensive matter, the next step, if the body be costive, is to inject *lenient, cooling chylsters*, which frequently discharge a deal of matter from the blood, as well as bring away the harden'd, fetid excrement.

The mischief that might arise from the *faeces*, remaining too long in the intestines, being shewn, and some cautions given concerning this evacuation, our author observes, that the next dependence, in the *beginning* and increment of this disease, is on such medicines as will blunt, absorb, and sweeten all acrid, sharp, irritating juices, which stimulate the *fibres*, increase their tension, and quicken their vibrations; from whence the blood is too impetuously moved, the heat increased, and the blood inspissated. The *testaceous powders* are generally prescribed on this occasion; to which *nitre*, or some preparation of it, is commonly join'd, with a view of cooling and abating the rarefaction of the blood and humours. Our author declares for pure *nitre*, preferably to any preparation of it; which, instead of improving it, may alter its nature, or render it impure.

When the head is violently affected with racking pains, a *revulsion* from that part may be caused by the application of the warm flesh, or inwards of animals to the soles of the feet; and the motion of the blood to the head, may be retarded, by setting the

patient upright, if he can bear it, or supporting him with pillows.

Beside, letting cool air into the sick person's room, our author advises sprinkling the floor with *oxycrate*, or *rose-water*, mixed with a little *nitre*; because as the *effluvia*, with which the air is impregnated, do press the absorbent vessels, a diffusion of such matter may be of great use in reducing the rarefaction, motion, and heat of the blood: to which it is added, that the rigidity, a dryness of the vessels, may be abated by rendering the air of the chamber moist, especially in hot and dry weather; which is to be performed by the administration of proper steams and vapours.

An *immoderate looseness*, toward the height of this disease, is dangerous, as it retards the *crisis* or depuration of the febrile matter. In this case, a gentle *emetic* is advised, and, after that, moderate *astringents* and *opiates*, in small quantities. When *spots* appear in fevers, the eruption is to be promoted by gentle *diaphoretics*, in order to hinder the matter from returning into the blood.

Mr. *Langrish*, having thus given full directions for the management of the patient in the *beginning* and *increment* of this disease, proceeds to the *stationary period*, where the symptoms are expected to be most violent; because a *crisis* seldom or never happens without an exacerbation of them. Having given a mechanical account of this effort of nature, to throw off the febrile matter; he observes, that this is done either by *sweat*, *fetid stools*, *turbid urine*,

violent spitting, or vomiting, by a spontaneous eruption of blood, by abscesses formed in the interstices of the muscles, by the morbid matter cast into them from the blood. This difference depends on the different degrees of concoction of the noxious matter. But, by whatever outlet nature attempts this discharge, she must be encouraged and assisted, unless such matter happen to fall on some of the inner viscera, or seize on some most noble part, or run off in such quantities as would inevitably destroy the patient.

When a *diaphoresis* cannot be raised, either by the strength of nature or art, the most experienced physicians advise an attempt on the bowels; and our author observes that, in prescribing catharticks, the patient must be consider'd, and each symptom remarked. *Helvetius* has laid down twelve symptoms, denoting the humours fit for expulsion by stool, which our author here sets down, and strongly recommends an attention to them.

The most dismal stage of this disease is, when no crisis can be obtained, either by the strength of nature, or the power of art. In this case, sharp, acrid, volatile, pungent, stimulating things are advised; and blisters, for exciting motion and rousing the drooping spirits. "The languishing pulse dictates now, says our ingenious author, and oppressed nature calls for the most agile remedies, such as volatile salts, camphire, castor, &c. Some of these sort of medicines, washed down with large draughts of

" comfortable, diluting drinks, are most likely to restore the power of the solids, and then divide, and produce intestine motions in the fluids.

This chapter concludes with four rules to be observed after the crisis is completed, and the fever gone off. *First*, conformably to the well known and rational observation of *Hippocrates*, *Quæ relinquuntur in morbis post crisin, recidivas facere solent*, Aphor. XII. a lenient purge or two will be proper, lest any of the febrile matter should remain in the blood, which may assimilate the humour again and generate obstructions. *Secondly*, when the blood is perfectly defecated, care is to be taken to recover the weaken'd tone of the viscera. To this purpose the Bath, Tunbridge, Spaw, Pyrmont, and other chalybeate waters, are prescribed. *Thirdly*, the food must be slender, light and easy of digestion: the drink smooth, demulcent and nutritious. *Lastly*, Moderate exercise, in a clear air, should be used for some time; " by which the body will be made relatively, as well as absolutely lighter: the fluids will be ground finer: the secretions and excretions will be properly perform'd: the juices, ligaments and muscles, will be freed from any excrementitious matter, which may happen to be lodged in them, or hang about them. Whence the strength will return much sooner than otherwise it would; and all the animal functions will be perform'd with their usual force and vigour.



The remaining part of this excellent, rational and judicious work, treats of the other kinds of fevers, viz. the *intermitting*, the *hectic*, the *slow*, and the *malignant*. As we have not room in this article for an account of what is said of those diseases, we shall defer

it to our next; being persuaded, that our readers will be better pleased with a distinct view of the whole treatise in two articles, than with a bare table of contents, or some unconnected extracts, croud-ed into one.

### ARTICLE LIII.

An Appendix to the Gardener's Dictionary; containing several Articles, which were omitted in the Folio Edition of that Work. By PHILIP MILLER. Gardener to the worshipful Company of Apothecaries, at their Botanic Garden in Chelsea; and F. R. S. London, printed for the Author, and sold by Charles Rivington, at the Bible and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard. 1735.

AS some articles were, by mistake, omitted in the two folio editions, of this curious and useful work, and some plants have either been better described or ranged by botanists since that time, this appendix, consisting of five sheets, contains two sorts of additions. We shall here give our readers a view of both distinctly.

The articles omitted, are as follows.

**BAUHINIA**, *Mountain Ebony*. This plant receiv'd its name from the famous botanists, *John and Gaspar Bauhin*. The characters of it are; *It hath a polypetalous, anomalous flower, consisting of five or more leaves, which are disposed on one side; from the flower cup arises the incurved pointal, accompanied with several stamina, of the same form, which afterwards becomes a pod, inclosing kidney-shaped seeds.*

**BONTIA**, commonly called *Barbadoes wild olive*. Its characters are; *It hath a personated flow-*

*er, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip is erect, the under lip divided into three parts. From out of the cup arises the pointal, fix'd like a nail in the hinder part of the flower; which afterwards becomes an oval fruit, soft and full of juice, in which is contained an oblong shell inclosing a nut of the same form. We know but one species of this plant, says our botanist; which is BONTIA laureolæ faciei; nam'd in English as above.*

**BRUNSFELSIA**, which derives its name from Dr. BRUNSFELSIUS, a celebrated physician. But one species of this plant is known at present; viz. BRUNSFELSIA, flore albo, fructu croceo, molli; with a white flower, and soft saffron-colour'd fruit. Its characters are; *The flower consists of one leaf shaped like a funnel, which is tubulous, and cut into many parts at the top; from whose calix arises the pointal, which afterwards becomes a round, soft, fleshy fruit, containing*

containing roundish seeds between the rind and the flesh.

**CACALIANthemum.** The characters of which are ; It hath a flosculous flower, consisting of many florets, like those of Groundsel ; but these flowers are cut into four segments, whereas those of Groundsel are divided into five parts. The cup of the flower is also slenderer than that of Groundsel.

**CALCECLUS,** Ladies slipper. Its characters are ; It hath an anomalous flower, consisting of six dissimilar leaves, four of which are placed in the form of a cross ; the other two possess the middle ; one of which is bifid and rests on the other, which swells, and is shaped like a shoe. The empalement becomes a fruit, open on three sides, to which adhere the valves, pregnant with very small seeds like dust. It has three species.

**CAMARA,** commonly called American Viburnum. It hath an anomalous, personated flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip or crest is erect ; but the beard, or under lip, divided into three parts. The embryo, on which the flower sits, afterward becomes a soft fruit or berry, inclosing a hard, round seed. To which may be added, that many embryo's are collected into one body. Our author gives us four species of this plant.

**CEIBA,** commonly called Silk Cotton Tree. Its characters are ; It hath a rosaceous flower, consisting of several leaves placed in a circular order ; from whose calix arises the pointal, which afterwards becomes a fruit, shaped like a bottle, divided into five parts from the top to the bottom ; in which are contained se-

veral round seeds wrapped up in a soft down, and fasten'd to the five pyramidal placenta. Mr. Miller mentions only two species of this tree.

**CINARA spinosa,** *cujus pediculi esitantur,* Chardon, or Chardoon. We have here no particular description of this plant ; but only some directions for treating it.

**CORIARIA,** commonly called Myrtle-leav'd Sumack. The characters of this plant or shrub are ; It hath a flower composed of ten stamina, or threads, each having two apices, and arise from the bottom of the calix, which is divided into five parts to the base. When the flower is passed, the pointal, which is contained in another cup, divided also into five parts to the base, becomes, jointly with the cups, a fruit containing five kidney-shaped seeds. There is but one species of this plant or shrub.

**GENISTELLA TINCTORIA,** Green-wood, or Wood-waken. The species are **GENISTELLA TINCTORIA Germanica**, our common dyer's wood, and **Austriaca**, greatest dyer's wood of Austria.

**HERMODACTYLUS,** the Hermodactyl, commonly called Snake's Head Iris. The characters are ; It is one of the liliaceous flowers, consisting of one leaf, and shaped exactly like an Iris ; but has a tuberose root, divided into two or three dugs, like oblong bulbs. The only species of this plant is the **HERMODACTYLUS folio quadrangulo**, called also *Iris tuberosa Belgarum*, the tuberose Iris of the Dutch.

**HERNANDIA,** vulgarly called Jack in a Box. The characters are ;



are; It hath a short, multified, bell-shaped flower, consisting of several petals, placed in a circular order. These are sometimes barren, at other times fertile. The cup of the flower afterwards becomes an almost spherical fruit, which is swelled, and perforated, containing a striated, roundish nut. The only species of this plant is *HERNANDIA amplexifolia*, umbilicata, *HERNANDIA* with a large umbilicated leaf, commonly called the *West-Indies Jack in a Box*.

*MAGNOLIA*, commonly called the *Laurel-leaved Tulip-tree*. Its characters are; It hath a rosaceous flower, consisting of several leaves, placed in a circular order, from out of whose cup arises the pointal, which afterwards becomes a hard conical-fruit, with many tubes, or risings; in each of which is contained one hard nut; which, when emitted, hangs by a long string.

*MAJORANA*, *Marjoram*. The characters are; It is a verticillate plant, whose flower is composed of one leaf, the crest is upright, roundish, and divided into two parts. The beard is cut into three segments, so as to appear almost like a quinquified flower. The flowers are collected into a short, thick, round head, and come out of a fourfold order of leaves, which are placed like scales or plates. Of this plant we have three species.

*MALPHIGIA*, commonly called *Barbadoes Cherry*. The characters are, It hath a small quinquified calix, which consists of one leaf, having bifid segments. The flower consists of five leaves, which expand in form of a rose, having se-

veral stamina collected in form of a tube. The ovary in the bottom of the flower-cap becomes a globular, fleshy, soft fruit, in which is a single capsule, containing three stony winged nuts. The species of this plant are four.

*MAMEI*, the *Mammee-tree*. Its characters are; It hath a rosaceous flower, which consists of several leaves placed in a circular order, from whose cup arises a pointal, which afterwards becomes an almost fleshy spherical fruit, containing two or three seeds inclosed in hard, rough shells. The only known species of this tree is, *MAMEI magno fructu persicæ sapore*. The *Mammee* with a large fruit tasting like a peach.

*MANCANILLA*, the *Manchineel-tree*. The characters are; It hath male flowers, or katkins, which are produced at remote distances from the embryo's on the same tree. The embryo becomes a round fleshy fruit, in which is contained a rough, woody nut, inclosing four or five flat seeds. Of this there are three species.

*NERIUM*, the *Oleander* or *Rosebay*. Its characters are; The flowers are monopetalous and funnel-shaped, divided into five segments at the top. Out of the flower-cup arises the pointal, which becomes a taper fruit or pod, divided into cells by an intermediate partition, filled with flat seeds which have down adhering to them. Of these we have five species.

*OBELISCOTHECA*, commonly called *American Sun-flower*. Its characters are; It hath radiated flowers, with many florets, which are fertile; but the half florets,

rets are barren. The placenta is commonly conical, and filled with chaffy empalements, which appear folded up; in each of which is an ovary, shaped like an obelisk reversed, having a hollow base. These parts are contained in one common flower-cup, deeply cut into several segments, and expands in form of a star; to which may be added, the leaves are placed alternately. Of this plant we have two species.

**OCYUM Basil.** Its characters are; It hath a labiated flower, consisting of one leaf, whose crest, or upper lip, is upright, roundish, notched, and larger than the beard or lower lip, which is generally curled or gently cut. Out of the flower-cup arises the pointal, attended by four embryo's, which afterwards become so many seeds inclosed in a husk, which was before the flower-cup. This husk is divided into two lips, the upper one growing upright, and is split into two; but the under one is cut into several parts. Of this there are eight species.

**ONAGRA,** commonly called Tree-Primrose. Its characters are; It hath a rose-flower, consisting generally of four leaves placed orbicularly, and resting on the empalement; out of whose upper part, which is fistulous, arises the pointal; the under part turning to a fruit, which is cylindrical, gaping in four parts, and divided into four cells filled with seeds, which are generally cornered, and adhere to the placenta. Of this we have seven species.

**Oxys,** Wood-forrel. The characters are; It hath a well-

shaped flower consisting of one leaf, having its brim wide expanded, and cut into several divisions. The pointal, which arises from the flower-cup, becomes an oblong, membranous fruit, divided into five seminal cells opening outward from the base to the top, and inclosing seeds which start from their lodges, by reason of the elastick force of the membrane which involves them. Of this we have six species.

**TURNERA,** an American plant, for which no English name is assigned. Its characters are; It hath a funnel-shaped flower, consisting of five leaves fastened to the calix, which is monopetalous, and divided into five parts at the top. Under the flower-cup are two leaves joining at the bottom, and surrounding the cup. From the center of the flower-cup arises the pointal, which is divided into three parts to the bottom, and surrounded by five stamina. This pointal afterwards becomes an almost spherical fruit, which is divided into three parts, and filled with roundish seeds, which are fastened to the placenta with slender threads. Of this plant we have two species.

Thus much for the new articles, which appear in this Appendix; we come now to the additions here made to old ones. To the article of *Acacia* are added eight sorts of that tree. To the article of *ACONITUM*, three sorts of *Wolfsbane*: To that of *ASTER*, *Starwood*, one species only. By way of addition to what had been said of *AVENUES* in the Dictionary, we have here directions for the newest way of planting *Avenues*, by placing the trees in clumps



clumps or platoons, making the growing much wider than before, and setting the clumps of trees about three hundred feet distance from each other, and the trees about thirty from each other in the clumps. We have likewise a large addition to the article *Aurantium*, containing farther instructions for the management of *Orange-trees*.

Our author had given but one species of AZEDARCH, or the *Bead-tree*; to which he now adds another, very rare in *England*, and a *flowering ever-green*. We have likewise a second sort of *BASELLA* climbing *Night-shade*, from *Malabar*, with *white flowers*, and *pale green stalks and leaves*. The four species of *BIGNONIA*, already mentioned, are more particularly described in the *Appendix* before us, and some farther directions laid down for the management of the second; with the addition of three species of that plant, lately brought from *America* into *England*. We see here four new species of the *CAMPANULA*, or *Venus's Looking-glass*; additional directions for planting *CELERY*; two other sorts the *CORALLODENDRON*, or the *Coral-tree*; and five of the *CYTISUS*, or *Tree-trefoil*.  
 "The first of these is the sort

"commonly sold in the nurseries  
 "by the name of *CYTISUS*  
 "*secundus clusii*, though by mistake, says Mr. *Miller*, I have  
 "put down the fourth sort for it  
 "in the *Dictionary*.

To the article of *GRANDILLA*, the *Passion-flower*, are added four species of it; the seeds of which were sent from *La Vera Cruz*, by the late Dr. *William Houstoun*. But one sort of the *Haemanthus* is described in the *Dictionary*; we have a second species of that plant in the *Appendix*. The method of raising *Melons* under oiled paper, instead of bell or hand-glasses, which has succeeded so well, as to be now very commonly practised in the gardens near *London*, being at present unknown in the country, is described by way of supplement to the article *MELO*. We have a short account of the *Coco-tree*, its nut, &c. under the article *PALMA*; and of four sorts of *Oak*, from *Austria* and *Hungary* under that of *INERCUS*.

The curious and ingenious author pursues the same method in this *Appendix* as he had observed in his *Dictionary*; giving an account of the manner of planting, propagating, raising, preserving and managing the several trees, plants, shrubs, flowers, &c.

## ARTICLE LIV.

DESIDERATA CURIOSA, Volume the Second continued.

**B**OOK XII. No. 5. We have the life of Mr. *Arthur Wilson*, the author of *The History of Great Britain, being the reign of King James I. relating to what passed from his first access to the crown, till his death.* These memoirs, under the title of, *Observations on God's providence in the tract of my life*, were written by Mr. *Wilson* himself; the original manuscript being, when this was published, in the hands of the reverend Mr. archdeacon *Knight*. The treatise itself is of a considerable length; but as it contains a great number of curious particulars, which cannot elsewhere be found, we thought our readers would not be displeased to see some of the most remarkable brought within the compass of an extract.

Mr. *Arthur Wilson* was born in the year 1596, of a genteel family, tho' his father had no great estate. When he was about 14 years of age, he was inclin'd to travel, and by the indulgence of his mother, allowed to pursue his inclinations, and he sent into *France*. When at *Clerac*, in *Gascony*, he fell ill of an ague, and was cured by a charm given him by a miller. In 1611, his father design'd him for trade, but being apprized, that the merchant he had chosen for his master, was a papist, he resolved to place his son in the *Exchequer-office*, and in order to fit him for that situation, put him under the care

of Mr. *John Davis*, then the most famous man of his time for teaching the law-hands. When Mr. *Wilson* had learned them, he was recommended to Sir *Henry Spiller*, who had a Post in the *Exchequer*, and whose family were papists. Here he had many doubts, and many disputes about religion, which very much offended Lady *Spiller*, who, taking advantage of his writing a bitter copy of verses on her maid, never left teasing her husband till she got him discharged.

Mr. *Wilson* being now about 18, and but poorly provided with money, was not a little puzzled how to behave himself. He took a lodging in *Holborn*, lived frugally, applied himself much to reading, and wrote a great many poems. At last, finding his stock grow very low, he resolv'd to make his father a visit in the country; which he did, and received from him what little assistance was in his power; but not thinking that enough, he took the liberty, when the old gentleman's study door was open, of borrowing ten *Barbary* ducats, which ungracious fact, as he calls it himself, cost him much sorrow, and many tears. On his return to *London*, he was unsettled in his resolution, till his cousin Mrs. *Nixon* prevailed with Mr. *Wingfield*, steward to the earl of *Essex*, to carry him with him into the country for the summer; which proved



proved the establishment of his fortune.

It happened, about *Michaelmas*, that when the *Effex* family were at *Chartley*, in *Staffordshire*, after dinner, one day, the house was suddenly alarmed, and a great disturbance raised, though no body knew the cause of it. My lord *Effex*, and the lords and gentlemen in his company, ran to the draw-bridge, the house being moated. Mr. *Wilson* went, as he saw others do, into the laundry, where they soon discovered the occasion of this alarm. One of the maids rinsing some cloaths in the moat, fell in; another going to help her, was pulled in by her; and a third running to them on the same errand, was pulled in by them both. The two last were quickly drawn out; but she, who fell in first, sunk in the sight of the earl of *Effex* and his company, who gave her over for lost, just as Mr. *Wilson* came to the side of the moat; but he observing where she sunk, plunged in, and not without great hazard to himself, dragg'd her out, and brought her safe on shore. The earl of *Effex* was so much pleas'd with the courage and generosity of this action, that he immediately sent for him into his bed-chamber, and made him keeper of his privy purse. This sudden preferment, raised him envy, particularly from one *Whitmore*, a relation of the earl of *Herford*, who challenged him, but did not come to the place appointed, which enhanced Mr. *Wilson*'s credit very much. Not long after, he fought one *Walsh* an *Irishman*,

whose right-arm he disabled, and the man taking his sword afterward in his left, Mr. *Wilson* fought him a second time, and disarmed him.

The love of poetry, and the ladies, took up a great part of Mr. *Wilson*'s time: He had likewise many quarrels and duels, more provoked to them, as he tells us, than willing to accept them; tho' he blesses God, he neither lost limb nor credit in any of them; however it is evident, that he lost no opportunity of shewing his bravery and resolution, and picqued himself extremely on doing such things, as were extremely rash, and very far from deserving commendation.

In 1620, he went with the earl of *Effex*, to serve under general *Vere*, in the *Palatinate*, where that noble lord, and the few *English* he carried with him, suffered very much, and to very little purpose. Supplies from *England* being never sent, and the enemy, under the command of the marquis *Spinola*, being much superior to them in number, in the close of the year, lord *Effex*, with his retinue, amongst whom was Mr. *Wilson*, came home thro' *France*.

In the summers of the years 1621, 1622, 1623, Mr. *Wilson* attended lord *Effex* in the *Low-countries*, where he served as a volunteer under the prince of *Orange*, and gained that experience which afterwards made him so considerable at home. The winters were spent either at one of my lord's seats, or at those of some of his noble relations; where masques

and plays were their usual recreations; and the words for those entertainments generally compos'd by Mr. *Wilson*.

In 1624, he went a second time into the *Palatinate*, with his master the earl of *Essex*, who had now the command of a regiment.

In 1625, Count *Mansfield* brought 12000 men out of *England*; but being fooled by the *French*, he kept them so long on ship-board, that the plague broke out amongst them; by which they were destroyed without seeing the enemy. After this, Mr. *Wilson* returned with his lord into *England*, who, towards the latter end of the year, was employed in the *Cales* business, not out of any respect, as our author tells us, that the court had for him, but merely to please the people, with whom the earl of *Essex* was always a great favourite.

Mr. *Wilson* gives us a terrible account of this *Spanish* expedition, which he tells us came to nothing, through the weakness and ill conduct of the general, lord *Wimbleton*. So that as this expedition was undertaken, merely to gratify the arrogant temper of the Duke of *Buckingham*, it ended in the destruction of a great many brave men, and to the high dishonour of the *English* nation. In 1626, Mr. *Wilson* attended the earl of *Essex* when he went again to his command in the *Low-countries*. The army quartered that summer in the dutchy of *Cleves*, and for some part of it lay entrenched near a nunnery, where our author affirms, that in throwing up the necessary fortifications,

they digged up several large pots used in that country, for holding water, wherein they found the remains of several children, some newly buried, and some consumed to the very bones.

The winter of the year 1630, was spent at the earl of *Hertford's* in *Wiltshire*, where Mrs. *Elizabeth Pawlet* coming to make a visit to the countess, was detained during the *Christmas* holidays. The beauty of her person, the sweetness of her temper, and the prudence of her conduct, so far charmed the Earl of *Essex*, that in the *Lent* following he married her; but it seems she afterwards changed her behaviour, and became, as Mr. *Wilson* phrases it, the true image of *Pandora's* box. One Mr. *Langborne*, afterwards a major-general in the parliament's service, was the person most trusted by the earl in his amour with Mrs. *Pawlet*; at which Mr. *Wilson* was not a little offended. The lady conceiving him no great friend of hers, tried every method she could to get him removed, but on examining of his accounts, and enquiring into the thing she suggested against him, his innocence appeared so fully, as to defeat her schemes; which she resented so much, that she feign'd herself sick, kept her chamber, and declared she would never leave it, while Mr. *Wilson* remained in the house; so that in *July* 1630, he was obliged to quit his lord; and within two years after, this lady, being detected in the very act of adultery, was separated from her husband, and lived in the infamy she deserved.

Mr.



Mr. *Wilson* took this opportunity of improving his studies; for which end he settled himself at *Oxford*, where he took his degree of master of arts, and lived quietly for some time. At first he apply'd himself to the *mathematics*; afterwards to *divinity*; and lastly to *physic*: but, after two years stay there, being disgusted with the debauchery, which he tells us then reign'd in the university, he quitted it, to enter into the service of *Robert* earl of *Warwick*.

In the beginning of *May* 1634, Mr. *Wilson* had a fever, which proved dangerous. In *November* that year, he married, of which action, he tells us, he never had cause to repent. In *February* following, he had a dispute with Mr. *King*, a gentleman belonging to the lord *Rich*, which from words coming to blows, he broke Mr. *King's* leg; of which mischance the poor man lay ill two months. During that time, Mr. *Wilson* often visited him, and on his recovery expected a challenge; but, instead of that, the man brought his action against him in the court of *King's-Bench*; which our author, by the advice of council, compounded for thirty-five pounds. About this time, he began to have more serious thoughts, than formerly, of religion; which, he says, were owing to the preaching of good men, who, the more they were eclipsed by the bishops, shone the brighter.

In 1637, he attended the earl of *Warwick* to the siege of *Breda*. In his return from *Holland*, about the middle of *August*, this lord

and he were very near perishing in a storm, which drove them back into *Holland*; from whence the earl of *Warwick* sent him, by way of *Flanders*, into *England*. At *Bruges* he was arrested, and, being there some time, had many conferences with one *Weston*, an old *Jesuit*, whom, he tells us, he frequently sifted, as to his opinions of persons and things in his own country; whereby he discover'd, that this old man violently hated queen *Elizabeth*, and bore a great spleen to *Laud*, then archbishop of *Canterbury*; but, as to the *powder-plot*, he candidly acknowledg'd it was framed by the *Jesuits*, and that what was given out of the *Puritans* having a hand in it, was a mere fiction, invented purely to take off the edge of the scandal.

In 1640, Mr. *Wilson* was attacked with an *erisipylas* on his arm, which soon after turn'd to a burning fever, and thereby put him in great danger of his life. In 1642, he informs us, that the multitude attacked long *Milford's* house, which belonged to the countess of *Rivers*, under pretence of her being a *Refusant*; but their true aim, he says, was spoil and plunder. This fury, continues he, was not only in the rabble; but many of the better sort behaved themselves, as if there had been a dissolution of all government. No man could remain in his own house without fear, or be abroad with safety. The countess of *Rivers* applying to the earl of *Warwick's* family, Mr. *Wilson* was sent with a coach and six, and some men, to bring her lady-

ladyship to a place of safety ; but this had like to have proved an unfortunate expedition to him ; for the mob were so angry, and so very unreasonable, that they very narrowly escaped with their lives.

On the 18th of July 1644, Mr. *Wilson's* horse threw him in *Litley-Park*, and hurt him in a terrible manner. The Sunday following, he heard Mr. *Beadle* of *Banston* preach from *Numbers xxxiii. 1. These are the journeys of the children of Israel, &c.* whence he insisted, that it was the duty of every christian to keep a record of his own actions, and of the several mercies conferr'd on him by God throughout his life. This made so deep an impression on Mr. *Wilson*, that he instantly set about that account of his life, which is now before us.

In 1645, there were several witches executed in *Essex*, Mr. *Wilson* was at their trial at *Cheelmisford* ; but, he says, he could see nothing in the evidence, which could persuade him to think them other than poor, melancholy, envious, mischievous, ill-dispos'd, ill-dieted, atrabilious constitutions ; whose fancies, working by gross fumes and vapours, might make the imagination ready to take any impression ; whereby their anger and envy might vent itself in such expressions, as the hearers of their confessions might find cause to believe they were such persons, as they blazon'd themselves to be.

In November 1647, holding up a claptile in *Pond-Park*, for his wife to go through, Mr. *Wilson* had the misfortune to have his

feet slip from under him, whereby he fell upon a pale with such force, that, for some moments, he lost his senses, and was so cruelly bruised, that it was a considerable time before he recover'd his health, and that not without the use of the balsam of *Peru* ; of which he gives a long account, and commends it in the strongest terms imaginable.

In 1648, there were great disturbances in *Essex*, on account of a petition from that county, for the parliament to treat with the king. The cavaliers took advantage of this, and rose in *Kent* and *Surry*. The lord *Goring* crossed the *Thames*, and drew together the royalists, who had taken arms in *Essex*. Mr. *Wilson* was, on this occasion, sent down to *Leese*, to take care of his lord's house and furniture.

Against *Goring's* troops, lord *Fairfax* sent colonel *Whaley* with fifteen hundred horse and foot, to amuse them till he could come with more forces to reduce them. Lord *Goring*, hoping to find a considerable quantity of arms, sent Mr. *Wilson* word, that he would come and dine with him ; whereupon he removed one half of the arms from the armoury, and hid them in secret places in the house. Some time after, lord *Goring* came and took what he could find, and had like to have discover'd those that were conceal'd. However, Mr. *Wilson* was accused to *Fairfax* of having invited him to his lord's house, and being in his heart as much a royalist as any of them ; which obliged him to meet his excellency as soon



as he came into the country; and, as good luck would have it, the general thought his preserving some of the arms, a circumstance strong enough to outweigh all that his accusers had to urge against him; so that he got rid of this business without much difficulty, tho' at first he apprehended himself to be in great danger.

On the 30th of July 1649, this gentleman was near being choaked by a drop or crumb, which, at dinner, got into his wind-pipe; whence at last it was with much difficulty removed. Six days after this accident, as he was hunting in the park near his dwelling-house, his horse started, and running with him under the side of an oak, a bough struck his forehead with such force, that had it not been rotten, it must infallibly have dash'd out his brains. This is the last circumstance in Mr. Wilson's own account. The editor informs us farther, that our

author (Mr. Wilson) died at Felstead, in the county of Essex, in the beginning of October 1652, and was buried in the chancel of the church: he gave a sum of money by his will, for two dozen of bread to be distributed on every Lord's-day for ever among the poor of that parish. His book was published after his death; and tho' it be written in a harsh and broken style, the periods often obscure, and sometimes without connection; it is however a very valuable piece. He finished it but a little before his death, the monarchy and hierarchy were then overturn'd; so that, if he had disliked them, he might have treated either, or both of them, in what language he pleased; yet it does not appear, he was an enemy to either. The following verses, wherein he draws his own character, are prefixed to that work; and we are in charity obliged to believe they contain his real sentiments.

*I have no envious eyes against the crown;*

*Nor did I strive to pull the mitre down.*

*Both may be good; but when heads swell, men say,*

*The rest of the poor members pine away.*

*Like ricket bodies, upwards overgrown,*

*Which is no wholesome constitution.*

Besides this life of Mr. Wilson, and the pieces mention'd in the former extract, this 2d volume of the *Desiderata Curiosa* contains many other curious pieces, especially in relation to the transactions from the beginning of the civil war, to the time of the restoration. The description of the *Isle of Man*, with wise coun-

sels interspers'd, make the letters of the earl of Derby not only curious and pleasant, but useful and instructive. The extracts from Mr. Smith's *Obituary* are strong proofs of the industry, for which that gentleman was so much respected in his life-time, and has been so deservedly applauded since his death. The chronicle  
of

of *Dale-Abby* in *Lancashire*, is a very valuable little treatise; and the editor's curious remarks on the dress, fashions, money, seals, medals, &c. of our own country, cannot fail of diverting whoever

peruses them. Mr. Peck informs us, that the 3d volume is in great forwardness; when it appears, we shall not fail of giving the publick a proper account of its contents.

## ARTICLE LV.

LETTERS of Mr. Pope, and several eminent Persons, &c. being the Sequel of Article XLVIII.

MR. Pope's translations of several pieces of *Homer*, inserted in his *Miscellanies*, were consider'd by the best judges of those times, as so many essays towards an entire translation of that poet. It is not certain that he had that vast design in view, when he entertained the publick with those occasional versions, but the excellency of the versification, and some other beauties, which Sir William Trumbull admired in them, drew a pressing letter from him to

Mr. Pope, dated April 9, 1708, where he earnestly intreats him to proceed in the work; which, to use his own words, he conceived might thus be made *as useful and instructive to this degenerate age, as it was to Horace, when he read it at Præneste.*

As soon as the *Essay on Criticism* appear'd, Mr. Dennis found his own character drawn in that of *Appius*. The lines which gave him most offence, were these:

*But Appius reddens at each word you speak,  
And stares tremendous with a threatening eye,  
Like some fierce tyrant in old tapestry.*

As he imagined them a reflection on his person, he highly resented the indignity; and on that and some other motives, wrote remarks on the whole poem. Mr. Pope having perused them, sent them to the honourable J. C. Esq; with a letter of the 15th of June 1711, and some few observations in the margin. His general character of that piece is, that it *abounds equally in just criticisms and fine railleries*. He owns the critic has made just objections to one or two

lines, which he promises to alter in case of another edition; and make his enemy do him a kindness, where he meant him an injury. It was Mr. Pope's hard fate to incur Mr. Dennis's resentment for some liberties he takes in religious affairs; while, on the other hand, some of his own communion pretended to find something downright heterodox in the *Essay on Criticism*. Any one, who reads that poem, will easily see what passages of it were explain'd into



into a heterodox sense by the monks in particular. While he complains of this treatment, he does justice to a dignified gentleman of that order, who treated him with more candor.

In a second letter to the same honourable person, of June 18. 1711, Mr. Pope undertakes to explain and justify the following simile.

(Thus wit, like faith, by each man is applied  
To one small sect; and all are damn'd beside.)

Which he shews had, by a hasty and injudicious connexion with the following lines, been made to speak a sense, widely different from his meaning. As he conceives the monks, his bitterest antagonists on this occasion, he very handsomely concludes, that "a little humility can do a poet no hurt; and a little charity would do a priest none. For, as St. *Austin* finely says, *Ubi charitas, ibi humilitas; ubi humilitas, ibi pax.*

Writing to the same gentleman on the 19th of July, he tells his friend his whole thoughts of the matter in dispute between himself and those whom he terms *holy Vandals*. Here he declares against mean artifices and *pious cheats*, of which he says, his religion stands in no need: complains of the too narrow and limited definition of *invincible ignorance*, given by some; and declares, he "hoped a slight insinuation, introduced so easily by a casual similitude only, could never have given offence; but, on the contrary, must needs have done good, in a nation and time, wherein the catholics are the smaller party, and consequently most misrepresented, as most in need of vindication." It is certain,

did the gentlemen of that communion agree somewhat better among themselves; could the weak, visionary, or interested part of them prevail with themselves to forbear censuring and even anathematizing men of probity and learning, merely, because they do not give into some little practices, espouse some idle, trifling, or even ill-grounded notions; the danger of the propagation of *papery* would be much more considerable than it is at present. They tell us indeed, they are well united in one common faith; but a traveller, who should regard little more than exterior practice, or the sentiments of the common people, and sometimes of those of a higher rank, would be induced to suspect the religion of *France* and that of *Portugal*, widely different one from the other.

In the *Spectator*, No. 378, we have a sacred eclogue, in imitation of *Virgil's POLLIO*, composed of several passages of the prophet *Isaiah*: Mr. *Steele*, writing to Mr. *Pope*, the author of it, on June 1. 1712, tells him, he had preserved the sublime heavenly throughout the whole; and that there was but one line which he thought below the original:

*He wipes the tears for ever from our eyes.*

O o o

The

The prophet had said, *The Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces.* This alteration

*From ev'ry face he wipes off every tear.*

Mr. Pope, having published his *Rape of the Lock*, sent a copy of it to Sir William Trumbull; who, in a letter dated March 6. 1713, thanks him for the present, and expresses his pleasure at seeing *Boileau's Latin* outdone in that poem. "You descend, says he, *leviore plectro*, to all the nicest touches, that your own observation and wit furnish on such a subject as requires the finest strokes, and the liveliest imagination." Mr. Pope, in his answer, of the 12th of the same month, complains, that his friend uses him with too much complaisance. To which he adds, with as much justness of thought as humour, "I know 'tis a common opinion, that a young scribber is as ill-pleased to hear truth, as a young lady. From the moment one sets up for an author, one must be treated as ceremonially, that is, as unfaithfully, *as a king's favourite, or as a king.* This proceeding, join'd to that of natural vanity, which first makes a man an author, is certainly enough to make him a coxcomb. But, adds he, I must grant it is but a just judgment upon poets, that they, whose chief pretence is wit, should be treated just as they themselves treat fools, that is, be cajolled with praises.

Mr. Pope being at last, by the importunities of his friends and the tendency of his own genius, worked up into a resolution of

was since made to singular advantage, and in a manner, which can admit of no farther exception.

translating the *Iliad*, received a letter from Mr. Addison, dated Oct. 26. 1713; in which that gentleman tells him, the bare appearance of his name to the proposals would, in his opinion, prove a sufficient recommendation of the work: that he questions not, but Mr. Pope's translation will enrich the *English* tongue, and do honour to our country; and that he knew not one of that age equal to the work beside himself. This is the judgment that great man formed of the performance from the pieces already published. In another, dated Nov. 2, Mr. Addison advises Mr. Pope not to content himself with having one half of the nation for his admirers, when he might command them all. It is easy to see, this caution is grounded on the humour of those times, when if the least shadow of party sentiments appear'd in writings of any kind, they must cease to be penned with a spirit of indifference. Thus *Cato* was, both by *whigs* and *tories*, at one and the same time, made to speak the sense of each party. The answer to this letter is without date. In it Mr. Pope returns his thanks for the admonition: declares he is not displeased with having already offended the violent of all parties; and, at the same time, feels not the least resentment or malevolence against those, who misrepresent him, or are dissatisfied with him.

Mr.



Mr. *Pope* had some hand in the *Guardian*. This taking air, an honest *Jacobite* told him, the good people of his party took it ill of him, that he wrote with *Steele*, tho' on ever so indifferent subjects. This he justly laughs at; generously professes he scorns narrow souls of all parties; and says, if he renounces his reason in religious matters, he will hardly do it in any other.

By a letter to Mr. *Addison*, dated *January 30. 1713-14*, Mr. *Pope*, in a humorous strain, acquaints him with the progress he had made in his grand undertaking. "The *Greek* fortification, upon a nearer approach, says he, does not appear so formidable as it did; and I am almost apt to flatter myself, that *Homer* secretly seems inclined to a correspondence with me, in letting me into a good part of his intentions." After a few short complaints of his being represented by some as a *tory*, by others as a *whig*, because he met with favour and friendship from men of both parties; he says: "This miserable age is so sunk

"between animosities of party  
"and those of religion, that I  
"begin to fear most men have  
"politicks enough to make, thro'  
"violence, the best scheme of  
"government a bad one; and  
"faith enough to hinder their  
"own salvation." To which he adds: "I hope, for my own part, never to have more of either than is consistent with common justice and charity; and always as much as becomes a christian and an honest man." Strokes of this sort are so common in the letters of this collection, that, thinking these sufficient for shewing Mr. *Pope*'s generosity and moderation in principles and matters of opinion, we shall for the future confine ourselves to such extracts as relate to the progress or success of his works, and the most remarkable things relating to his conversation with his friends.

In a letter to Mr. *Jervas*, of *August 16. 1714*, Mr. *Pope* tells that great painter, "*Homer* advances so fast, that he begins to look about him for the ornaments he is to appear in, like a modish modern author.

--- Picture in the front,  
With bays and wicked rhyme upon't.

*August 27*, of the same year, writing to Mr. *Edward Blount*, he lets him know his task has had a voluntary increase, by enlarging his design of the *notes*; and that the necessity of consulting a number of books had carried him to *Oxford*. He then complains of the negligence of geographers in their maps of *Old Greece*; and, after all his care, apprehends his

engraver will injure him in some situations, which he has corrected by two or three good maps at *Oxford*.

It appears from a letter of Mr. *Jervas* to Mr. *Pope*, dated *August 20*, that there had been some misunderstanding between Mr. *Addison* and the latter. Mr. *Pope*, in answer to Mr. *Jervas*'s proffer of his good offices on that occasion, highly resents Mr. *Philips*'s

lips's conduct, in giving Mr. Addison disadvantageous notions of him, in regard to his acquaintance with Dr. Swift and the tory party: he declares, he should be ashamed of receiving any real service from a man, who had no better opinion of his morals, than to think him a party-man. This Letter is dated August 27. On the 10th of October following, Mr. Pope wrote to Mr. Addison, let him know he had heard from a friend, that he had spoken handsomely of him; whereupon, he, with great respect, desires his revival of the two first books of the translation of *Homer*, with his free opinion on the performance. As his bookseller was then reprinting the *Essay on Criticism*, highly recommended in the *Spectator*, No. 253, he desires Mr. Addison, who had there said, the poet has admitted some strokes of ill-nature into that essay, to point out those strokes, and promised to treat them without mercy. In the same *Spectator*, speaking of an observation on *Homer's* verses concerning *Sisyphus's* stone, Mr. Addison mentions it as never having been made before by any of the critics. Mr. Pope here honestly owns, he happen'd to find the same in *Dionysius of Halicarnassus*, *ἡγετὶς Συσίππου* *Oropetiar*, who treats very largely on those verses. The censure on the *Essay on Criticism* is not retracted, or expunged. The other observation stands unsoften'd in the tenth edition of the *Spectators*, publish'd in 1729. However, the publisher of these letters tells us, in a note at the bottom, these words are since left out in Mr. Tickell's

Edition; but were extant in all during Mr. Addison's life.

Mr. Pope having now published some part of his *Homer*, Mr. Dennis had a fresh opportunity of shewing his parts, and getting a little money, by making remarks on that performance. The translator, writing to Mr. Congreve, January 16, 1714-15, professes he is so far from being mortified at the criticism, that he "thinks nothing more honourable, than to be involv'd in the same fate with all the great and good that ever lived; that is, to be envied and censured by bad writers." He declares, he has no farther anxiety about the fate of his *Homer*. "The world," says he, must be the judge; and I shall be the first to consent to the justice of its judgment, whatever it be. I am not, continues he, so arrant an author, as even to desire, that if I am in the wrong, all mankind should be so. In another letter, to the same gentleman, of April 7, 1715, he takes notice of Mr. Thomas Burnet's criticisms on his *Homer*; and adds, in a prophetic strain, that it, and the farce of the *What d'ye call it*, shall survive the conflagration of his father's works, and live after they and he are damn'd (for that the b---p of S. is so, is the opinion of Dr. Sacheverel, and the church of Rome.) Soon after this publication, Mr. Tickell's version of the first book of *Homer* appeared; Mr. Gay, in a letter to Mr. Pope, dated July 8, lets him know from Sir Samuel Garth, that Sir Richard Steele told him,



him, Mr. Addison said Tickel's translation was the best that ever was in any language; and in a note at the bottom, it is observ'd that Sir Richard Steele afterwards, in his preface to the *Drummer*, gives it as his opinion, that Mr. Addison himself was the person, who translated that book. Mr. Pope, however, conceived it done by Mr. Tickel, at the instance of Mr. Addison; for, writing to Mr. Secretary Craggs, July 15, and comparing his own and Mr. Tickel's motives on that occasion, he says: "If our principles be well considered, I must appear a brave *Whig* and Mr. Tickel a rank *Tory*. I translated *Homer* for the public in general, he to gratify the inordinate desire of one man only." After this, it is no secret whom he means in the same letter by the great *Turk* in poetry, who can never bear a brother on the throne. However, he says, "He treats with that great man, as we do with the *Grand Monarch*; who has too many great qualities, not to be respected, tho' we know he watches any occasion to oppress us.

In the beginning of the year 1718, we find Mr. Pope very intent on the sequel of his great work, and impatient to reach the conclusion of it. Writing to the honourable Mr. Robert Digby, January 2, he says: It is not to be expressed how heartily he wishes the death of all *Homer's* heroes, one after another. In a letter to the same gentleman, dated May 1, 1720, he complains he had undertook to do more than he could

execute; having design'd four very laborious and uncommon sorts of indexes, he was forced, for want of time, to publish only two. He was likewise obliged to leave unfinished two essays; one on the *Theology and Morality of Homer*, the other on the *Oratory of Homer and Virgil*.

In a letter from Mr. Pope to Mr. Edward Blount, of January 21, 1715-16, we have an humorous account of what he calls the last act of that eminent comic poet, Mr. Wycherly, which we chuse to give in his own words.

"He had often told me, that he would marry as soon as his life was despaired of. Accordingly, a few days before his death, he underwent the ceremony, and joined together those two sacraments which wise men say should be the last we receive. For if you observe, matrimony is placed after extreme unction in our catechism, as a kind of hint of the order of time in which they are to be taken. The old man then lay down, satisfied in his conscience of having, by this one act, paid his just debts, obliged a woman, who, he was told had merit, and shewn an heroic resentment of the ill usage of his next heir.----The evening before he expired, he called his young wife to the bed-side, and earnestly entreated her not to deny him one request, the last he should make. Upon her assurance of consenting to it, he told her; *My dear, it is only this, that you will never marry an old man again.*

In another letter to the same gentleman, dated *September 8, 1717*, he tells him he had lately read *Jeffery of Monmouth*, as translated by a clergyman in his neighbourhood. The poor man was highly concerned to vindicate *Jeffery's* character as an historian; and told Mr. *Pope*, he was surprised that those of the *Roman* communion could doubt of the legends of his giants, while they believe those of their saints. He says, he is forced to make a fair composition with the honest translator; and by crediting some of the wonders of *Corinaeus* and *Gogmagog*, had brought him to speak respectfully of *St. Christopher's* carrying Christ, and the resurrection of *St. Nicholas Tolentine's* chickens. This amazing writer had made him lay aside *Homer* for a week; but the perusal of his history had prepared him to translate, with belief and reverence, the speech of *Achilles's* horse.

Whatever fault have been laid to Mr. *Pope's* charge, his worst enemies have allowed him the character of respect for, and duty to his parents; and this favour was the more easily granted, as it no ways interfered with their poetical or critical interest. In a letter to Mr. *Blount*, of *November 27*, the same year, he speaks of his father, then lately dead, in the following terms. "He had lived in such  
" a course of temperance as was  
" enough to make the longest life  
" agreeable to him; and in such  
" a course of piety, as sufficed to  
" make the most sudden death  
" so also. Sudden indeed it was;  
" however I beg GOD to give

" me such a one, provided I can  
" lead such a life. I leave  
" him to the mercy of GOD,  
" and to the piety of a religion  
" that extends beyond the grave.  
In another to the same worthy gentleman, dated *October 21, 1721*, he tells him his poor mother is declining. "I am watching over her, says he, as we  
" watch an expiring taper, that  
" even when it looks brightest,  
" wastes fastest.

We have here a small collection of letters written to Mr. *Gay*, from the year 1712 to 1730. As they are mostly letters of bare familiar conversation, we shall not be particular on them, but conclude this article with an extract from Mr. *Pope's* letter to the earl of *Burlington*, concerning his epistle on *False Taste*, addressed to that nobleman. It is dated *March 7, 1731*. By the wonderful force of application, that poem had been converted into a virulent satire on a certain duke. To this he replies, "The writer deserved  
" more candour, even from those  
" who knew him not, than to  
" promote a report, which in regard to that noble person, was  
" impertinent, in regard to me  
" villainous. Yet I had no great  
" cause to wonder, that a character, belonging to *twenty*,  
" should be applied to *one*; since  
" by that means nineteen would  
" escape the ridicule." Mr. *Pope*, having received a letter from the duke on that subject, says, "His  
" humanity feels a concern for  
" the injury done to *me*, while  
" his greatness of mind can bear  
" with indifference the insult offered



“fered to *himself*.” From the conduct shewn on this occasion, I have learn’d, continues he, “There are some, who would rather be *wicked* than *ridiculous*, and therefore it may be safer to attack *vices* than *follies*; I will therefore leave my betters in the quiet possession of their *idols*, their *groves* and their *high-places*; and change my subject

“from their *pride* to their *mean-ness*, from their *vanities* to their *miseries*. And, as the only certain way to avoid misconstructions, to lessen offence, and not to multiply ill-natured applications, I may probably, in my next, make use of *real* names, and not of *fictitious* ones.” This he did in his epistle to Lord Bathurst, on the use of riches.

## ARTICLE LVI.

## PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS. No. 435.

THE first article of this number, is the remaining part of Dr. *Newmannus*’s dissertation on *ambergrise*, begun No. 433, and continued in No. 434. We have here an account of *ambergrise* of several colours, and different external appearances; and directions for distinguishing adulterations and fraudulent mixtures. The doctor having said, that this *bitumen* comes nearer than any thing to *amber* (*succinum*) supports that assertion by three experiments; to which are added several attempts for dissolving *ambergrise*.

This paper being read in a meeting of the *Royal Society*, two of its members, well vers’d in chymical operations, were directed to repeat the curious foreigner’s process. One of them left it doubtful, whether *ambergrise* might not be an animal excrement; the other concluded as Dr. *Newman* had done. The account of this is drawn up in *Latin*, by

Dr. *Mortimer*, their secretary, in the second article.

The third is an account of Mr. *Thomas Godfrey*’s of *Davis*’s Quadrant, transferred to the *mariners bow*, communicated to the *Royal Society* by Mr. *J. Logan*, from *Philadelphia*. The proposal for that improvement had been laid before the *Society*, as drawn up by the projector himself; Mr. *Logan*, fully persuaded of the great usefulness of the instrument, as proposed by Mr. *Godfrey*, transmits a more full account of it, with the advantages attending it.

Frequent opportunities of observing the latitude at sea, being of great advantage to navigation, Mr. *Richard Graham*, F. R. S. in the fourth article, exhibits the description and use of an instrument for performing this at any time of the day; which, as he observes, has these advantages, *viz.* *First*, It may be easily understood by seamen. *Secondly*, It immediately shews the latitude of the place. *Thirdly*,

*Thirdly*, It gives the time of the day at sea, when no other instrument can. *Fourthly*, It may be made as large, and consequently as accurate as is desired. The figure of the instrument being explained, Mr. Graham lays down the use of it in two propositions.

Prop. I. *From two observations of the height of the sun, the distance of the said observations in time being given by a watch, as likewise the declination of the sun, to find the latitude of the place and hour of the day; and this either when the ship is at rest, or in motion.*

Prop. II. *The Zenith distances of two stars, observed at the same time, their declination, and right ascension being known; to find the latitude of the place of observation.*

The fifth article contains the fifth part of the late Dr. Derham's abstract of the meteorologi-

cal diaries communicated to the Royal Society. These observations were made at Hall in Saxony, in 1729; and in the year 1728, at Goslar in the Lower-Saxony; at Wittemberg in Saxony; at Naples; at Southwick, in Northamptonshire; at Lunden, Upsale, and several other places in Sweden. These last are represented in barometrical, and thermometrical tables; to which are added a table of the rain at Southwick and Naples, in the year 1728, short remarks on the meteorological observations of the same year, and an appendix to the remarks on that and some of the years preceding it, formed from the curious observations made at Padua, by the marquis Poleni.

As this number concludes the thirty-eighth volume, for the years 1733 and 1734, we have a general title and alphabetical index.

## ARTICLE LVII.

*Dissertation sur le Triumvirat de Galba, Othon & Vitellius, & sur celui de Pescennius, Albin & Severe. Par le Pere Panel de la Compagnie de Jesus. That is, A Dissertation on the Triumvirate of Galba, Otho and Vitellius; and on that of Pescennius, Albinus and Severus. By Father Panel, of the Society of Jesus.*

**G**ALBA, Otho and Vitellius have, by all historians, been consider'd as three distinct emperors; and tho' their reigns were but of a short duration, no man, but father Hardouin, ever thought of making them govern the Roman empire in conjunction, till this singular Jesuit publish'd what he justly calls his conjectures on three medals, the draughts of which

were sent him by a friend, to whom he addresses his dissertation in the form of a letter. The good father is sensible that he is going to contradict the ancient historians; but does not think it a rash action to differ from them, where religion is not concern'd, and when he thinks he has such proofs on his side which admit of no reply. No



No one point of history (says he) is perhaps more perplexing than that of the reign of *Galba*, *Otho* and *Vitellius*. What historians say of them is so ill supported, the Facts are so confus'd, and often contradictory, the dates so uncertain, that a man is almost tempted to believe he is reading a romance, rather than a history.

Father *Hardouin* has distinguish'd himself by depriving *Virgil* of the honour of writing the *Eneid*, fix'd the date of that poem to the thirteenth century of Christianity, and consider'd it as the work of some ill - designing Person, an enemy to the christian religion. The odes, which are receiv'd under the name of *Horace*, are, according to that profound critick, of the same date, and calculated for the support of atheism, &c. He was obliged to retract this extravagant system, and his retraction was printed. Among other imaginations, that father had ventur'd to say, that the three emperors, already mention'd, reign'd together, as *Octavius Cæsar*, *Mark Anthony* and *Lepidus* did, with the title of *Triumvirs*. Father *Panel* is of opinion, that the medals before him are good and substantial evidence in favour of this conjecture. Let us now allow him to deliver his sentiments in his own way.

“ These medals were struck at  
“ *Tripoli* in *Syria*. The letters,  
“ in a counter-mark on the neck  
“ of a head crown'd with laurel,  
“ form this inscription, in the  
“ manner of a monogram, IMP.  
“ GAL. IMP. OTHO. IMP.  
“ VITEL. The reverse bears the

heads of *Castor* and *Pollux*, with  
“ symbols of those divinities; and  
“ round them we read ΤΡΙΠΟΛΕΙ-  
“ ΤΩΝ . . . . If the head on these  
“ medals does not seem to resem-  
“ ble any of the princes whose  
“ names they bear, you are not  
“ thence to conclude, that they  
“ wore struck at their accession  
“ to the empire, and before their  
“ pictures were sent into *Syria* . . .  
“ But the head on these medals  
“ seems to represent *Nero* to the  
“ Life. I grant this; but let it  
“ not therefore be affirm'd, that  
“ the people of *Tripoli*, through  
“ precipitation, inadvertency, or  
“ on a principle of OEconomy,  
“ took a coin stamp'd with the  
“ effigies of that prince, in order  
“ to make it pass for the medals  
“ of his successors. That people,  
“ representing *Galba*, *Otho*, and  
“ *Vitellius*, by the effigies of  
“ *Nero*, design'd to signify, that,  
“ under this new triumvirate,  
“ they enjoy'd a government as  
“ mild as that of *Nero*, whose  
“ memory was certainly dear to  
“ them. They put the same ef-  
“ figies on all the three medals,  
“ because they intended to let the  
“ world know, that, tho' the  
“ empire was entrusted in the  
“ hands of three princes, it was  
“ govern'd by the same spirit;  
“ and that their union was such  
“ as made the subjects insensible  
“ of the multiplicity of sovereigns.  
“ That this interpretation is not  
“ arbitrary, appears from the re-  
“ verse of these medals being  
“ stamp'd with the symbols of  
“ union and concord, *Castor* and  
“ *Pollux*. If this proof is not  
“ sufficient, take another, which  
P p p cannot

“ cannot be rejected. I take it  
 “ from the conformity and re-  
 “ semblance found between al-  
 “ most all the medals of those  
 “ princes ; a conformity not to be  
 “ observed between those of the  
 “ other emperors ; and which  
 “ therefore evidently shews that  
 “ the persons, of whom we are  
 “ speaking, reign’d together.”  
 The following are some of those  
 here produced.

SER. GALBA IMP. CÆ-  
 SAR AUG. P. M. TR. P.  
 SECURITAS P. ROMANI S.  
 C. The goddess is represented  
 sitting, her left-arm supported on  
 her chair, and an altar at her  
 feet. A copper medal from the  
 cabinet of father *de Vitry*, a *Jesuit*.

IMP. OTHO CÆSAR  
 AUG. TR. P. SECURITAS  
 P. R. The goddess standing ;  
 one hand holding a crown, the  
 other a spear. In silver, belong-  
 ing to Mr. *Dunod*, professor in  
 the university of *Besançon*.

A. VITELLIUS GERM.  
 IMP. AUG. P. M. I. R. P. SE-  
 CURITAS P. R. S. C. The  
 same figure as in that of *Galba*.  
 Of copper, mention’d by father  
*de Vitry*.

ΣΕΡΟΤΙ. ΓΑΛΒΑ. ΑΥΤΟ. ΚΑΙΣ. ΣΕΒ.  
 Λ. Α. The head of *Isis*. In  
 copper, in the collection of Mr.  
*Lebret*.

ΜΑΡΚ. ΟΘΩΝ. ΚΑΙΣ. ΣΕΒ. ΑΥΤ. Λ. Α.  
 The head of *Isis*. Of the same  
 metal, and in the same collection.

ΑΘΑ. ΟΥΤΙ. ΚΑΙΣ. ΣΕΒ. ΤΕΡΜ. Λ. Α.  
 The head of *Isis*. In copper,  
 from the cabinet of *Parma*.

From these, and several other  
 medals, father *Panel* very gravely  
 infers, *First*, That, to use the

common language, *Galba*, *Otho*  
 and *Vitellius* took the titles of *Em-  
 peror*, *Cæsar* and *Augustus*, at  
 their accession to the imperial dig-  
 nity. But, says he, if we believe  
*Suetonius*, *Vitellius* for some time  
 declined the surname of *Augustus*,  
 and always refused that of *Cæsar*.  
*Secondly*, From the inscriptions on  
 some of their medals ; such as,  
 SALUS GENERIS HUMA-  
 NI : PAX ET LIBERTAS :  
 ROMA RESTITUTA : SA-  
 LUS ET LIBERTAS : CON-  
 CORDIA PROVINCiarUM,  
 FIDES EXERCITUUM ;  
 PAX ORBIS TERRARUM ;  
 it is concluded, that union was  
 maintained among those three  
 princes, and tranquillity establish’d  
 in the empire ; that this tranquil-  
 lity was the fruit of the peace  
 which they gave the world by  
 their victories abroad, and their  
 care to preserve it at home, either  
 by supporting the provinces, or  
 the good understanding they main-  
 tain’d in the several bodies of  
 troops in different parts of the  
 empire.

“ *Thirdly*, says our antiquary,  
 “ though each of those triumvirs  
 “ had his part of the empire to  
 “ govern, as *Octavius Cæsar* and  
 “ *Mark Anthony* had, the whole  
 “ empire unanimously acknow-  
 “ ledged them, since all the parts  
 “ of it struck medals in their  
 “ honour. We have, continues  
 “ he, several with *Latin* and  
 “ *Greek* inscriptions, struck at  
 “ *Rome*, and in other countries  
 “ where the *Roman* language was  
 “ received ; as at *Tripoli*, at *An-  
 tioch*, in *Egypt*, *Crete*, *Cyprus*,  
 “ *Mauritania*, *Greece*, &c.

*Fourthly*,



"*Fourthly*, This triumvirate "subsisted one whole year, and "no longer. The whole empire being put into *Galba's* "hands the following year, as it "afterwards was into those of "*Septimius Severus*, at the expiration of his triumvirate in "conjunction with *Albinus* and "*Pescennius*; had we no other "proof but the number of medals which bear the names of "those princes, that alone would "be a sufficient demonstration "that *Otho* reigned longer than "ninety days." (*Suetonius* places his death on the 95th day of his reign) "and *Vitellius* more "than eight months. Those of "*Galba*, allow him a reign of "two years," says *F. Panel*. *Suetonius* tells us, he was killed in the seventh month of his reign.

For a proof of what he advances, he refers his friend to the following, among other inscriptions on medals,

ΣΕΠΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΑΛΒΙΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΠΕΣΚΕΝΝΙΟΥ

The prince's head crown'd with laurel; before which are these two letters L. B. These stand for *Laurea Britannica*. The second year of his reign. This medal is of copper, and preserved by Mr. *Croichet*, at *Poligny*. We have two with the same letters, one marked with *Rome*, the other with *Alexandria*.

Father *Pagi*, and the bishop of *Adria* seem to think, that the *Egyptians* counted the years of the *Roman* emperors from the first day of their month *Thoth*, or the twenty ninth of our *August*; so that, if any one of them had been proclaimed before that time, the

space between such proclamation and the twenty ninth of *August*, was counted the first year of his reign, and the second commenced on that day. This supposition is rejected by father *Panel*, who here produces two medals; one with a *Greek* inscription, struck in the island of *Cyprus*, the other with a *Latin* one, supposed to be struck at *Rome*, both which give *Galba* a second year. The former of these is in the duke of *Devonshire's* collection, the latter in that of Mr. *Lebret*.

Our antiquary, not content to with these discoveries, proceeds to prove, that the empire was given to *Septimius Severus*, at the expiration of his triumvirate with *Albinus* and *Pescennius*. In this too, he follows the wonderful *F. Hardouin*, who has observed, that after the death of *Commodus*, the *Roman* empire was governed by *Quinquevirs*, viz. *Pertinax*, *Julian*, *Pescennius*, *Albinus* and *Severus*. This opinion, we are told, is solidly supported by that *Jesuit*, in his *Historia Augusta*. It is farther observed, that whatever the jurisdiction of those princes might be, it appears from the medals, that it was more extensive than father *Hardouin* imagined; or, at least, that those princes were acknowledged beyond the limits of the provinces which fell to their share. Here again the resemblance between most of these medals is employed as a proof that they were struck at the same time, and under the same magistrates. We shall present our readers with a view of some of them.

ΑΤΤ. ΚΑΙC. Π. ΗΕΛΥ. ΠΕΡΤΙΝ. CEB. ΕΦΕC. Β. ΝΕΩΚ. A temple adorned with six columns. A copper medal in the custody of Mr. *Rigord*.

ΑΤΤ. ΚΑ. CΕΠ. CΕΟΥΗΡΟC. ΕΦΕC, ΙΩΝ. Β. ΝΕΩΚΟΡ. with the same temple. In copper.

ΑΤΤ, Γ. ΠΕCΚ. ΝΙΡΟC. ΚΑΙCΑΡΕΙ ΑCΤΕΡΜΑΝΙΚΗC. Fortune standing; a copper medal in the cabinet of *Mansini*, at *Rome*.

ΚΑΩ. ΑΑΒΕΙΝΟC. ΚΑΙCΑΡ. ΕΠΙ. CΤΡ. Κ. ΑΡΙCΤΟΦΑΝΟΙC. CΜΤΡ-ΝΑΙΩΝ. A sibyl sitting. This medal, which is of copper, father *Panel* had seen in the hands of a foreigner, who brought it from the *Levant*.

After the death of *Pertinax*, and the abdication of *Julian*, that is, says our antiquary, at the beginning of the second year, since the reins of government were put into their hands, *Pescennius*, *Severus* and *Albinus*, reigned with the title of *Triumvirs*. This appears from a small brass medal in the collection of Count *Gambert Giusti*, at *Verona*, CLOD. SEPT. AL--- on which is the head of *Albinus*, and this inscription, III VIR. The heads of *Severus*, *Pescennius* and *Albinus*. The reverse of this valuable medal may be read either *Triumvir*, or *Triumviri*. In the first sense, the inscription shews, that *Albinus* was one of the triumvirs. In the latter the term can be explained only of the three princes represented on the medal. Hence it is concluded, that they formed a *Triumvirate*.

If, says, our author, the rupture between *Severus* and *Albinus*

was occasioned only by the former refusing the latter the title of *Cæsar*, and the honours belonging to it, and *Albinus* demanding that of *Augustus*, should we see the heads of those two princes on their medals, each with the title of emperor? This is illustrated by three other medals.

*Albinus*, according to our antiquary, was not own'd as emperor, till the fourth year of his reign, when he took the title of *Augustus*. *Commodus* had associated him in the empire, and called him *Cæsar*; the usual appellation of those who were to succeed the emperor on the throne. Two medals are produced for the proof of this fact. On the first, in the cabinet of Mr. l'Abbé *Fauvel* at *Paris*, we have D. CLODIUS ALBINUS CÆSAR. *Albinus's* head with a crown. P. M. T. R. P. XVII. IMP. VIII. COS. VII. A goddess sitting, with a sceptre in her right-hand, and her left supported by a child, who stands at her feet. On the second, in the collection of Dr. *Battley*, arch-deacon of *Canterbury*, is the following inscription: P. M. T. R. P. XVII. IMP. VIII. COS. VII. The same goddess sitting, her left-hand, supported by the chair, holds a spear; a little child at her feet, to whom she extends her right.

It is *Fa. Panel's* opinion, that the date of these reverses can suit only the time of *Commodus*. By these titles we cannot mistake the last year of his reign. To say, that the officers of the mint did, by inadvertency, strike the medals of *Albinus* with the reverse of those of *Commodus*, would be

flying



flying to the frivolous, but common solution of such as have nothing better to say. Here it is shewn, from five medals, that it is no uncommon thing to find medals of the *Cæsars* stamp with the year of the reign of the princes, who had chosen them for their successors. Even the medals of the empresses express the year of the reign of their husbands. We have here five of the former, and as many of the latter.

From these it is concluded that, as it is agreed, those medals were struck in the year specified, it will be as natural an inference, that *Albinus's* medals were struck in the year of *Commodus's* reign there mentioned. If so, *Albinus* was *Cæsar*, during the Life of *Commodus*, and heir presumptive to the imperial crown. Now, *Albinus* received the title of *Cæsar* in the last year of that emperor's reign, as appears from the medals. The first year of *Albinus* ought therefore to be reckon'd from the last of *Commodus* inclusively.

In the following year, which was the second of his reign, *Pertinax*, *Julian*, *Pescennius* and *Severus*, were associated in the empire. In the third, the two princes, last mentioned, formed a triumvirate with him, which lasted two years. *Fa. Panel*, by way of addition to *Fa. Hardouin's* medals on this subject, gives us an account of one, hardly known to the antiquaries, but which he looks on as a complete demonstration.

ΑΤΤΟ. ΚΑΙΟ. ΠΕΚΚ. --- The head of *Pescennius*, crowned with laurel, before which is the *Greek* let-

ter Γ. On the reverse ΔΑΜΑC. victory, with a crown in her hand.

The letter Γ. the third in the alphabet, is supposed to signify a third year. This date, says our antiquary, cannot agree with the æra of the city of *Damascus*; for the last year of this triumvirate falls in with DCCCCXLVIII of *Rome*, and DVII of *Damascus*. This third year therefore is to be understood of the reign of *Pescennius*; as it is impossible to apply letters of the same sort on some medals, here mentioned, to any years, but those of the reigns of the emperors, to whom those medals belong. *Pescennius* therefore reign'd one Year in conjunction with *Pertinax*, *Albinus*, *Julian* and *Severus*, and two more with *Severus* and *Albinus*. Thus, as our author concludes, the three years of his reign are proved, and consequently the two years of the triumvirate demonstrated.

While men are men, we are not to expect any social tie, either religious or civil, will make a number of them of one mind in all cases; nor indeed is it necessary. The *Jesuits*, a political body, might make *Fa. Hardouin* sign a retractation out of obedience to his superiours, but could not so easily oblige him to change his sentiments. It is not to be doubted, that those gentlemen, who are commonly very zealous for promoting the study of the *Belles Lettres*, will call *Fa. Panel* to account for this heterodox piece of criticism. We shall, at least, see in our next journal, what the famous *Fa. Tournemine* says in reply to this dissertation.

ARTICLE

## ARTICLE LVI.

## LITERARY NEWS.

## PARIS.

**M**R. James Cloufier, bookseller in this city, has lately publish'd the third volume of *L'Origine ancienne de la Physique Nouvelle*: par le Pere Regnault de la Comagnie de Jesus, that is, *The Ancient Origin of the new natural Philosophy*; by Francis Regnault, of the Society of Jesus. In 12mo.

In the first volume of this work, the author had consider'd the connexion between the old and new philosophy. In the second, he shew'd the advantage of the new philosophy over the old. The third, of which we are now speaking, examines the means by which philosophy has of late years arriv'd to that degree of perfection. These, according to father Regnault, are several happy conjectures: an enquiry into and comparison between whimsical opinions, and solid ideas of nature: the study of nature in itself, rather than in the writings of philosophers: a regular method: observations, experiments, new instruments, erecting of academies, writing of journals, or memoirs for a history of the sciences. Under this last article it is observ'd, that the *literary journals*, publish'd in several countries, are so many universal and portable libraries, in which we may, at one glance, see and collect what each country produces most valuable for the improvement of natural philosophy. The same may be said in regard to other branches of learning.

Mr. Rollin junior, &c. have printed a *General History of Portugal*, in two volumes, Quarto; and in eight, 12mo. written by Mr. De la Clede.

Stephen Ganneau, and Lewis Stevens jun. have publish'd a new edition of *L'Histoire Generale des Drogues simples & composees*. That is, *A General History of simple and compound Drugs*. In Quarto, 2 Vol.

This work contains whatever is the object of natural philosophy, chymistry, pharmacy, &c. under three classes, viz. vegetables, animals, and minerals. To the cuts, with which the book is adorn'd, is join'd a discourse, explaining their different names, the countries where they are found, the manner of distinguishing the true ones from the false, and their several properties: On which occasion the mistakes of both ancient and modern writers are shewn. The first volume treats of vegetables; i. e. the seeds, grains, bulbs, onions, roots, woods, leaves, flowers, herbs, gums, fruits, and whatever is extracted from them; as oils, essences, spirits, salts, &c. The second, beside a continuation of the discourse on gums and juices, contains an account of animals, insects, shell-fish, with their parts and excellences, metals, half-



half-metals, marcaffites, minerals, precious ftones, bitumens, and earth.

## SOISSONS.

The bishop of *Soiffons* propofes a gold medal worth 300 livres, as a prize to be difpofed of by our academy on the 10th of *April* 1736, for the beft historical difsertation on the true *Æra* of the fettling of the Franks in Gaul, the truth or falshood of the expulfion of Childeric, on the promotion of Egidius to the throne, and the reftoration of Childeric by the help of *Guysmans*; on the nature and extent of the authority of Egidius and his fon, *Sygarius* in the *Soiffonnois* and the neighbouring countries; and on the place where the famous battle of *Soiffons* was fought.

The academy defires, that the perfons, who fend their difsertations, will fpecify, either in the margin, or at the end of their pieces, the proofs of the facts advanc'd, and the authors from whom they take them. They are to be directed to *Monfieur de Beyne*, at the prefidial of *Soiffons*, perpetual fecretary of the academy, poft paid, before the 1ft of *February*. The authors are not to fign their names, but only write fome fentence at the bottom of their pieces. They muft, however, let the fecretary know how to acknowledge the receipt of them. They are farther defired to take all proper precautions for concealing their names till the conteft is decided; if they are discover'd by their own fault, they will be excluded from all title to the prize.

The perfon, who carries the prize, fhall come and receive it at the publick meeting of the academy, on the day above-mention'd; or fend a commiffion to an inhabitant of this city, directed to the fecretary with his receipt for the work.

## LEYDEN.

*Mr. Lommius* entertains the public with a third edition of his firft book of *CELSUS*, concerning the method of preferving health; written in *Latin*. To which he has added a copious index of things and words.

## AMSTERDAM.

The moft curious piece we have feen here for fome time, is a French treatife on trade, confider'd in a political view; *Effai politique fur le Commerce*. In a small *octavo*, printed for *Francis Changuion*. The author feems very well acquainted with both the commerce and intereft of all the *European* nations, and handles his fubject in a concise, but mafterly manner. This treatife is divided into eighteen chapters. I. *Some general Principles*. II. *Of Corn*. III. *Of the Increase of Inhabitants*. IV. *Of Colonies*. V. *Of Slavery*. VI. *Of exclusive trading Companies*. VII. *Of military Government*. VIII. *Of Industry*.

*Industry.* IX. *Of Luxury.* X. *Of numerary Values.* XI. *Of Proportion in the Species of Money.* XII. *Of the Sedition in the Time of Philip the Fair.* XIII. *Of the Money in the Reigns of St. Lewis and Charles VII.* XIV. *Of the Fall of Money.* XV. *Of the Dearness of Provisions.* XVI. *Objections answer'd.* XVII. *Of Exchange.* XVIII. *Of Public Credit.*

N. B. *We have seen an English translation of this essay, which will speedily be publish'd, with considerable improvements, additions, notes, observations, &c. by an able hand. As soon as it appears in that form, we shall give our readers a more particular account of it.*

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